

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT**

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May 18, 2009

Ian Kim, Coalition Coordinator  
California Green Stimulus Coalition c/o  
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights  
344 40<sup>th</sup> Street  
Oakland, CA 94609

Dear Mr. Kim:

I wish to thank-you and the members of the California Green Stimulus Coalition on the interest to improve the uses of the state's Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program grant award funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

In your correspondence dated May 12<sup>th</sup>, you cite specific concerns for whether the Comprehensive State Plan submitted to the Department of Energy will accomplish the service objectives of the DOE and the requirements and priorities associated with the ARRA. Though I appreciate your general concerns on the State Plan, it is important to note that the department was afforded 60-days to prepare and submit the Comprehensive State Plan. To comply with the aggressive deadlines, the department elected to incorporate ARRA specific changes and requirements to the existing annual program model design and forgo pursuing large-scale changes/enhancements (e.g., conduct solicitations for new providers) that would compromise our ability in meeting the May 12<sup>th</sup> (state plan) due date and jeopardize the states receipt of ARRA funding. In addition, the department required detailed plans from its service providers as a means to evaluate and determine the capacity of each provider to achieving the performance and accountability objectives of the DOE WAP ARRA funding. CSD intends to prepare and submit an amended state plan in the Summer or Fall of 2009 to propose the inclusion of new energy efficiency measures and new local providers as deemed necessary to ensure the capacity of the service provider network in meeting the objectives of the DOE WAP ARRA funding. I feel confident that the plan submitted will successfully support the initial program implementation.

As iterated to you by members of my staff, CSD is fully committed to engaging stakeholder interests on ways to make the program yield even greater results and exploring opportunities to maximize the investment of ARRA funding to further advance statewide workforce development, economic stimulation, and energy-efficiency. These areas of focus appear to align with the views embraced by the coalition and the department is most interested in advancing discussions to determine the most strategic and optimal ways to achieve the mutually desired outcomes and objectives.

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To further advance discussions and the exchange of ideas, I would like to extend the opportunity for you, Kim McCoy Wade, Mike Herald and other members of your coalition to participate in the next meeting of CSD's Energy Council, scheduled for Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at CSD. The Energy Council serves as a representative body to the network of energy service providers, convened to assist and advise the Department on policy development, planning, and other issues to ensure the successful administration and delivery of energy assistance services to low-income communities. The meeting will provide a perfect platform for leading a constructive dialog between all parties to broaden the understanding of the DOE WAP, and more specifically, further the discussion on the coalition's suggestions to improve program effectiveness.

I truly appreciate the coalition's strong interest in the program and working constructively with both CSD and the network of local energy providers. Please confirm your interest in attending the Energy Council meeting with Jason Wimbley, Division Chief of Energy Programs at (916) 341-4356 or email at [jwimbley@csd.ca.gov](mailto:jwimbley@csd.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Lloyd Throne  
Director

cc: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, State of California  
Speaker Karen Bass, California State Assembly  
President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, California State Senat  
California Inspector General Laura Chick  
Jerry Hill, California State Assembly, Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services  
Jeanne Clinton, California Public Utilities Commission  
Karen Douglas, Commissioner, California Energy Commission  
Pat Perez, California Energy Commission  
Secretary Steven Chu, U.S. Department of Energy  
Secretary Hilda Solis, U.S. Department of Labor  
Senator Barbara Boxer, U.S. Senate  
Senator Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senate  
Speaker Nancy Pelosi, U.S. House of Representatives  
Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, U.S. House of Representatives  
Van Jones, White House Council on Environmental Quality, Advisor on Green Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation